



THE
Atlantic Monthly

ROBERT MANNING
EDITOR IN CHIEF

October 8, 1968

Dear Mr. Ellsberg:

Vietnam is "death at the box office" these days insofar as magazines go, but we thought the proceedings of the Stevenson Institute's Conference on Vietnam were too valuable to be kept from the kind of people who read The Atlantic.

We could not possibly publish more than a part of the 130,000-word transcript, and have tried to select portions that look ahead to the application of Vietnam lessons in the future.

I am pleased to send you the November issue in which the first of two installments appears. I'll be glad to send the second in December if you want it.

Yours ever,

Robert Manning

Mr. Daniel Ellsberg
The Rand Corporation
1700 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

October 24, 1968

L-20116

Mr. Robert Manning
Editor in Chief
The Atlantic Monthly
8 Arlington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Mr. Manning:

Thank you for your letter and for sending me a copy of the November, 1968 Atlantic with the symposium on "No More Vietnams" in which I participated. Let me also thank you in advance for the December issue, to which I look forward. Your excerpting seems to have been done very well.

If I should be quoted again in the December issue, and hence my background cited, I should be grateful if you would add at the end, "Special Assistant to the Deputy Ambassador in Vietnam, January to June, 1967." (This seems to have been left out inadvertently in your November issue, thereby truncating my service in Vietnam. Alternatively -- not to swell my background unduly -- just replace the last two items, including this one, with: "Member of the U.S. mission in Vietnam, August, 1965 to June, 1967")

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Ellsberg

DE:ca
Enclosure

P.S. As I write this, it occurs to me that a mutual friend, Frankie Fitzgerald, long ago suggested to me that I bring to your attention, for possible publication, an old piece of mine, which I hereby enclose. As indicated, this was written quickly while I was in Vietnam. You may think it outdated; but then again, since it isn't, you may not. (Whether it would, at this date, be of any interest to your readership is another matter, of course, upon which I trust your judgment.) I have myself been more than curious to know how the village of Loc Tien has changed over the last year, particularly after the Tet offensive, but I have not yet moved any of my friends in Vietnam, despite appeals, to find out for me. This would make the piece more topical, and I could make another effort to find out if you thought it worthwhile.